

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed March 23, 2004, claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-10, 13, 15-16, 18, and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,761,622 (hereinafter Dasan). Claims 2, 5, 7, 14, 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dasan in view of US Patent 6,549,612 (hereinafter Gifford et al.). Claims 11-12 and 23-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dasan in view of US Patent 5,801,702 (hereinafter Dolan et al.).

The Applicants have cancelled claims 1-24 and submit new claims 25-38. Reconsideration of the instant application by the Examiner in view of the remarks below is respectfully requested.

Aspects of the Claimed Invention

Since the inception of the World Wide Web, standard Internet content (such as Web pages written in HTML, JavaScript) has always been rendered by and presented through a Web browser program (e.g., Microsoft® Internet Explorer®). It is interesting to note that all Web browser programs available in the market place share a common feature: Web browser programs display Internet content through a “window frame-like” user interface with buttons like “Forward,” “Backward,” “Home,” etc. A user of a Web browser program is given some flexibility in configuring the “window frame.” For instance, the user may change the size of the window frame, or remove some buttons. The browser vendor (e.g., Microsoft Corporation) also has some control over the appearance of the “window frame,” such as the appearance of the “home” icon, and the branding of the browser.

None of those Web browser programs, however, enables Web content providers (e.g., the author of a Web page) to control the functionality or appearance of the “window frame” of the Web browser program. Neither the Web content providers nor the users of Web browser programs are able to remove the Web browser program’s “window frame” entirely. In other words, standard Internet content is “trapped” within the Web browser window.

The Applicants herein realized that the ability to control the appearance of the “frame” is important to Web content providers. Particularly, the Applicants herein realized that, if Internet content is presented without the confines of the Web browser window frame, Internet content can achieve the appearance and functionality of sophisticated application programs, which traditionally were written in complicated computer languages (e.g., C++) and which traditionally required highly trained computer programmers. In other words, the Applicants herein have realized, if Internet content is presented without the confines of the Web browser window frame, Web page developers knowledgeable in Web markup languages and scripting languages (e.g., HTML, XML, JavaScript) would be able to create sophisticated-looking “application programs” (e.g., a calculator, a clock, an MP3 player) that are actually written in markup language without using more complicated computer languages and without having to compile the programs.

The present invention is directed to a method and system for providing a framework through which Web content designers can present standard Internet content (e.g., Web pages written in HTML, XML, JavaScript) without the confines of a Web browser window frame. According to an embodiment, a server-side program and a client-side parser program are provided. Running on a client device, the client-side program will parse and interpret standard Internet content and display the standard Web content without being bounded by Web browser window frames. In one embodiment, the “frame” surrounding the Web content is itself Web content (e.g., HTML and GIF files), thus allowing Web content providers to control the functionality and appearance of the frame through which Internet content is presented. Running on a server device, the server-side program provides the Internet content (including the Internet content that defines the “frame”) in response to user request from the client-side program. In one specific implementation, the server-side program provides to the client-side program: (a) Internet content that defines a “frame” (e.g., a GIF file that define the appearance of the frame, or a URL address that links to a GIF file), and (b) Internet content that specifies an address of additional Internet content to be displayed within the “frame” (e.g., an URL address). When the client-side program receives the Internet content from the server-side program, the client-side program

renders the “frame” and retrieves additional Internet content according to the specified address and displays the additional Internet content within the rendered “frame.”

In one specific embodiment, the client-side program provides a “HomeDot” or a “Home NIM” that acts as a command center, listing the available Internet content in a menu format and allowing a user to select specific Internet content. An example “Home NIM” 162 is illustrated in FIG. 5 of the instant application. A user of the client-side program may choose any one of the listed items (called “Dots” or “NIMs”). Upon receiving the selection, the client-side program transmits the request for a particular “Dot” or “NIM” to the server. In response, the server transmits the appropriate Internet content (e.g., JavaScript, URL addresses) back to the client-side program. The client-side program then either renders the received information, and/or retrieves additional information from the addresses.

For example, if a user chooses the “AnyDay Calendar” item from the list 188 (FIG. 5), the display of “AnyDay Calendar Dot” 103 (FIG. 6) will result. As another example, if a user chooses the “Work.com Business Search” item from the list 188, the display of a search engine “Dot” 133-4 (FIG. 9B) will result. Note that the “AnyDay Calendar Dot” and the search engine “Dot” 133-4, which are not displayed via the frames of a conventional Web browser user interface, are Internet content. The frames of the “AnyDay Calendar Dot” and the search engine “Dot” are Internet content themselves, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. Thus, the Web content provider may control the appearance and functionality of the frame as well as the content. That is, Internet content is displayed without being “trapped” or “limited” by the window frame of a Web browser user interface.

A significant advantage of the present method of co-ordinating the delivery of Internet content is that small “chunks” of interesting Internet content can be made available to a user via a very simple and easy-to-use user interface, one that does not require the user to invoke conventional Web-browser programs.

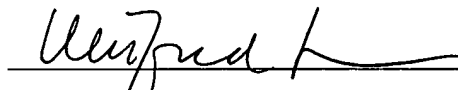
The Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references cited previously teaches or suggests the concepts of the present invention and/or its advantages.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the references do not teach or suggest the specific systems and methods as claimed. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are allowable.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure